1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

- 2 WHEREAS, Judicial salaries in Texas are consistently lower
- 3 than those of other states with similar populations, and the state
- 4 judiciary has received only two pay raises since 2000; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The Judicial Compensation Commission was created in
- 6 2007 to recommend appropriate salaries for judges of the Texas
- 7 Supreme Court, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the courts of
- 8 appeals, and the district courts; since its inception, the JCC has
- 9 issued a report during each state legislative session; the only
- 10 upgrade in compensation came after the commission's 2012
- 11 endorsement of a 21.5 percent raise in judicial salaries; the
- 12 legislature voted to increase wages by 12 percent; and
- WHEREAS, The Texas judiciary plays a fundamental role in
- 14 upholding the rule of law and safeguarding the rights and
- 15 protections guaranteed to citizens by the state and federal
- 16 constitutions, and competitive wages help to attract and retain the
- 17 most qualified and capable judges for courts across the Lone Star
- 18 State; now, therefore, be it
- 19 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
- 20 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
- 21 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study
- 22 state judicial salaries; and, be it further
- 23 RESOLVED, That the study include the creation of a formula to
- 24 calculate state judicial salaries, examining the salaries of the

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- 1 highest appellate courts of the nine most populous states other
- 2 than Texas, the salaries of judges on the United States Courts of
- 3 Appeals, and the average starting base salaries of first-year
- 4 associate attorneys at the five largest law firms in Texas; and, be
- 5 it further
- RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
- 7 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
- 8 committees as the 85th Legislature may adopt.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 57 was adopted by the Senate on May 28, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 57 was adopted by the House on May 29, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House